THE

EDINBURGH ANNUAL REGISTER,

FOR 1814.

THE

EDINBURGH

ANNUAL REGISTER,

For 1814.

VOL. SEVENTH.——PARTS I. AND II.

EDINBURGH:

Printed by James Ballantyne and Co.

FOR ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE AND CO. EDINBURGH;
LONGMAN, HURST, REES, ORME, AND BROWN, LONDON;
AND THE OTHER PROPRIETORS.

1816.

EDINBURGH

ANNUAL REGISTER,

FOR 1811.

VOL. SEVENTH.—PARTS I. AND II.

CONTENTS.

CHAP. I.

PAGE.

Domestic History. Prince Regent's Speech upon opening the Session of Parliament. Debates upon the Address. New Military Arrangements, - - - 3

CHAP. II.

Parliamentary Proceedings continued. Committee of Supply. Ways and Means, and Foreign Treaties and Subsidies. Adjournment of Parliament, - - 28

CHAP. III.

Parliamentary Proceedings continued. Bill to take away Corruption of Blood in Cases of Felony and High-Treason. Bill to make Freehold Estates liable for Payment of Simple Contract Debts. Apprentice Laws. Proposed Alteration in the Poor Laws, - - - - - - - - - 49

CHAP. IV.

Discussions relating to the Speaker's Speech at the Close of the last Session. Proceedings respecting the Corn Laws. Bill for the better Preservation of the Peace in Ireland. Reflections on the Orange Associations. Debates as to the keeping up of the Militia Establishments in Time of Peace. Mr Serjeant Onslow's Bill for better securing the Liberty of the Subject, - - - - - - 66

CHAP. V.

Proceedings in Parliament relating to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, 93

CHAP. VI.

Discussions in Parliament on the Slave Trade. On the Conduct of Great Britain towards Norway, - - - - - - - 118

CHAP. VII.

PAGE.

Army and Ordnance Estimates. Civil List. English and Irish Budgets. Vote of Credit. Speeches of the Prince Regent, and of the Speaker of the House of Commons, at the Close of the Session, - - - - - - - - 143

CHAP. VIII.

State of the French Armies. Decay of Discipline. Their Line of Defence on the Eastern Frontier. Immense Preparations of the Allied Powers,—Of England,—Of Russia,—Austria,—Prussia,—and of the German States. The Allied Sovereigns take the Field in Person. Enthusiasm of the Germans on approaching the Rhine. Buonaparte's Address to his Senate. The Allies transmit their Basis of Pacification, and a Treaty is commenced. Grand Council of War at Frankfort. Opening of the Campaign. The Austrians enter Switzerland, occupy Geneva, and advance into France. The Russians pass the Rhine near Rastadt, and Blucher crosses it in three Places. The Allies force the Defiles of the Vogesean Mountains. Take Langres and Nancy. Are repulsed from Lyons. But gain Possession of Dijon, and threaten a immediate Advance on Paris - - - - - 166

CHAP. IX.

The Government of Buonaparte is unpopular. Report of the Legislative Body. Napoleon's indignant Reply. Negociations for Peace at Chatillon. Buonaparte recalls his Spanish Armies, and makes fresh Levies. His personal Behaviour. Fall of public Credit. Napoleon leaves Paris to join the Army. General View of his Plan of defensive Operations. Battle of Brienne. Battle of La Rothiere. The Allied Armies again separate. Buonaparte evacuates Troyes, and renews his Negociations for Peace. Moves suddenly to his Left against the Army of Silesia. Defeats Alsufieff, and Sacken, and compels Blucher to retire. Masterly Retreat of the Prussians. The Grand Allied Army advances, takes Nogent, and threatens Paris. Napoleon takes Monterau. Skirmish at Mery. Schwartzenberg evacuates Troyes. Execution of Gouault. Blucher advances to the Marne. Exhausted State of the Theatre of War, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 182

CHAP. X.

Defection of Murat from Buonaparte, and Successes of the Allies. Augereau is defeated and Lyons taken. Conduct of the Crown Prince of Sweden. Campaign in Flanders. Battle of Merxen. Antwerp bombarded. Attempt on Bergen-op-Zoom. Advance of Winzengerode and Bulow from Flanders into France. Campaign of the South of France. Buonaparte enters into a Treaty with Ferdinand of Spain, but the Cortes and Regency refuse to ratify it. The French evacuate Catalonia, but not without Loss. Conspiracy of the Royalists in favour of the House of Bourbon. Intrigues of Talleyrand and the Constitutionalists. Hesitation of the Allies to recognize the Claims of Louis XVIII. Monsieur, with the Dukes of Angouleme and Berri, leave England for France. Monsieur favourably received in Franche Compté, but discountenanced by the Austrians. The Duke d'Angouleme arrives in Gascony, and communicates with La Roche Jaquelein. Wellington resolves to advance. Dislodges Soult from his fortified Camp at Bayonne, and defeats him at Orthes. The French again defeated near Acres. General Hope crosses the Adour. Field-Marshal Beresford is detached upon Bourdeaux. Received with Enthusiasm. The Mayor and Inhabitants declare for the Bourbons. Apprehensions on their Account in England, - - - - - - - - - - 206

CHAP. XI.

PAGE.

Reasons for supposing Peace would have been made. Buonaparte nevertheless rejects the Preliminaries of the Allies. The Proposals for an Armistice are broken off. Blucher's Advance again reaches Meaux, but retreats when Buonaparte moves against it. Blucher retreats on Soissons, and finds it taken by Bulow and Winzengerode. Buonaparte attempts to storm it, but is repulsed. Battle of Laon. Buonaparte retreats. Second Battle of Bar-sur-Aube, fought between the Grand Allied Army and the Divisions of Victor and Oudinot. The French retreat and evacuate Troyes, which is again occupied by the Allies. Buonaparte's Project for Pacification is rejected, and the Conferences at Chatillon are broken off. Buonaparte endeavours to render the War national, and to draw together the Garrisons on the Rhine. He attacks and recovers Rheims. The Grand Allied Army again threaten to cross the Seine. Buonaparte marches against them, but is checked and in great personal Danger at Arcis-sur-Aube. He retreats to Vitry. The Prussians refuse to yield up the Place. He continues his Retreat to Saint Dizier, and determines to throw himself into the Rear of the Allies. His probable Reasons for this Movement. Augereau is defeated by the Austrians, and Lyons surrenders, - - - - - - 230

CHAP. XII.

The allied Armies unite, and determine to march on Paris. Junction of the Grand Army with that of Silesia. Marmont and Mortier are intercepted in their March to join Buonaparte, and driven back with great Loss. A large French Convoy is cut off near La Fere Champenoise. Continued Retreat of Mortier and Marmont, and their Losses. Defeat of the French near Ferté la Jouarre. The French evacuate Meaux, and blow up the Magazine. The Allies come in Sight of Paris. Description of the Heights of Belleville, Romainville, and Montmartre. Line of Defence adopted there. Consternation in Paris. Exertions of the Police to conceal or disguise the Truth. Review of the Garrison and National Guard of Paris. Order of Assault adopted by the Allies. Battle of Paris. Interview of Captain Peyre with the Emperor Alexander. Joseph flies from Paris. An Armistice is proposed and granted. Terms of Capitulation are adjusted. The allied Troops bivouack on the Heights without the City. 252

CHAP. XIII.

State of Paris during the 30th March. Intrigues of the Agitators to influence the Populace. Councils of the Royalists. Various Groups traverse the Streets, proclaiming Louis XVIII. Their Success is at first doubtful, but becomes more decided. Interview of the Emperor Alexander with the Parisian Magistracy, and its Effects on the public Mind. The Allied Sovereigns enter the City. The Strength of their Armies. Their Reception by the Citizens. Movements of Buonaparte upon Lorraine. He defeats Winzengerode's Army of Observation. Menaces Vitry; and is recalled by News from Paris. Marches rapidly to Troyes. Outstrips his Army, and reaches La Cour de France, near Paris. Receives Intelligence of the Capitulation, and retires to Fontainbleau. The Royalists in Paris gain Ground. The Senate assembles, and decrees that Buonaparte has forfeited the Crown. Buonaparte harangues his Soldiers, and resolves to advance on Paris. His Marshals advise him to abdicate. He hesitates, and at length consents. Marmont with his Division adheres to the new Government, and passes within the Lines of the Allies. The Marshals make a Treaty for Buonaparte with the Allies. Its extraordinary Terms. Account of the Regency at Blois. Affairs at Bourdeaux. The Duke of Wellington defeats Soult before Torbes. Soult retreats on Tholouse, where he entrenches himself strongly. Battle of Tholouse. Lord Wellington enters Tholouse, which declares for the Bourbons. Sortie from Bayonne. Cessation of Hostilities, - - - - - 264

CHAP. XIV.

PAGE.

Adherences to the New Government.—Plan of a Constitution prepared by the Senate. Criticisms upon it. Entry of Monsieur into Paris. Buonaparte lingers at Fontainbleau. Takes leave of his Guard. Departs. Is ill received in the Southern Provinces. Embarks at Frejus and lands at Elba. Conduct of the Bourbons during their Exile. The Reception of Louis XVIII. in London, and in Paris. Reciprocal Sentiments of the French and Allies towards each other. Treaty of Peace. Treaty with England. Constitutional Charter. Remarks upon it by the Royalists and other Parties. Congress appointed to meet at Vienna, - - - - - - - - 284

CHAP. XV.

Military Affairs in Germany. Blockade of Hamburgh. Evacuation of the Fortresses held by the French beyond the Limits of France. Cession of Norway. The Norwegians chuse Prince Christian for their King, and proclaim their Independence. Considerations respecting the Justice of their Cause. The Crown Prince invades Norway. Prince Christian resigns his Rights. A new Diet is assembled, and an Union with Sweden acquiesced in. State of Poland. The Duchy of Warsaw adjudged to Russia. Prussia to be indemnified by the Dismemberment of Saxony. Impolicy and Injustice of this Measure. Convocation of the States General of Hanover, and the Duke of Cambridge's Speech to them. Union of Belgium with Holland. New Constitution of Switzerland. Resisted by Bern, but finally acquiesced in. Geneva accedes to the Helvetic League. Reflections on the Mode in which these Revolutions were accomplished, - - - - - - - - - - - 295

CHAP. XVI.

Military Events of the Year in Italy. Battle of Roverbello. Advance of Murat against Beauharnois. Convention with the Austrians. The English make an Attempt on Leghorn. Disembark an Army, and take Genoa after a Battle. Lord William Bentinck's Proclamation. Genoa united with Savoy. Reinstatement of the King of Sardinia in his Continental Dominions. Acquisitions of Austria. The Pope returns to Rome. His Measures. Re-establishment of the Jesuits. Sicily. Affairs of Spain. Fanaticism of the Royalists. Errors of the Liberalists. Character of the King, and Expectations formed upon it. Return of Ferdinand. Discord betwixt the King and Cortes. Ferdinand dissolves them by Proclamation. Takes Possession of Madrid, and imprisons several Members of the Cortes. Restores the Inquisition and other Abuses. Discontents among the People. Enterprize of Mina. Reflections on Ferdinand's Conduct, and on the Intercourse betwixt Britain and Spain. Spanish Colonies. The Flotilla of the Royalists defeated, and Monte Video taken. Pacification of Chili. Venezuela conquered by the Royalists, - - - - - - - 311

CHAP. XVII.

The American War. Impolicy of the War. Inferiority of the American Armies. America proposes Peace through the Mediation of Russia. Britain rejects the proposed Mediation, but agrees to enter into a direct Treaty. Naval Actions. Capture of the British Sloop Rein-deer. Engagement between the Wasp and the Avon. Capture of the Essex by the British Frigate Phœbe. Americans defeated near Buffaloe, and the Town burnt. Reflections on this Mode of Hostility. Retreat of General Wilkinson to Sackett's Harbour. The British destroy the American Fort Oswego. General Real worsted at Chippawa, and forced to retreat to Niagara. General Drummond advances to his Support. Battle of Niagara. The Americans retreat to Fort Erie. Unsuccessful Attempt to Storm that Fortress. Expedition up

PAGE.

the Patuxent. Destruction of the American Flotilla. Battle of Bladensburgh. Burning of the public Edifices at Washington. Policy and Justice of these Proceedings. Capitulation of Alexandria. Action before Baltimore, and Death of General Ross. The British retreat. Death of Sir Peter Parker. Capture of the Passmaquoddy Islands, and of Part of the Province of Mairie. Expedition of Sir George Prevost. Defeat of the British Flotilla before Plattsburgh, and Retreat of their Army. A Sortie from Fort Erie is repulsed. The Americans advance in Force to Chippawa, but retreat and evacuate Fort Erie. The Eastern States are dissatisfied with the War. They appoint a Convention to consider of the Provisions of the Union. Proceedings of the Commissioners of Ghent. Peace concluded. Its Terms. The West Indies. Tranquil State of the East Indies, - - 328

CHAP. XVIII.

Domestic Affairs of Britain. Fraud on the Stock-Exchange. Its Detection by the Committee. Trial of Lord Cochrane and others. Their Sentence. He is expelled the House of Commons, and again returned for Westminster. Visit of the Allied Sovereigns to Britain. Their enthusiastic Reception. Interest excited by Blucher. Their Visit to Oxford; and other Festivities. Remarks on this Visit. Arrival of the Duke of Wellington in the Capital. He takes his Seat in the House of Lords. Speech of the Chancellor. Reply of the Duke. National Provision for Support of his Dignity. Grants in favour of other distinguished Officers, - - 345

CHAP. XIX.

Domestic Affairs continued. Embarrassed State of Commerce and Credit. Causes of this Distress. Low Price of Corn, and Decline in the Value of Land. Origin of this Depreciation. Proceedings on the Corn-Laws. Disorders in Ireland. Justice Fletcher's Charge at Wexford. Division among the Catholics of Ireland. The Marriage Treaty broken off between the Hereditary Prince of Orange and the Princess Charlotte of Wales, - - - - - - - 358

Chronicle, containing brief Accounts of the various Public Occurrences of the Year, ... i—clxxvi

Summary of Remarkable Occurrences in 1814, ... clxxvii

Appendix I.—Gazettes clxxxiii

——— II.—State Papers, British, ... ccxcix

——— ——— Ditto, Foreign, ... ccevii

Public Acts of the Year 1814, ... ccclxxvi

Public Accounts of Great Britain and Ireland, ... ccclxxxix

List of Patents, ... ccccvi

ORIGINAL POETRY.

Extract from "The Poetic Mirror."—Guerilla.—Lord Byron, . . ccccix

——— The Stranger.—Wordsworth, . . ccccxiv

——— Isabelle.—S. T. Coleridge, . . ccccxxii

——— Peter of Barnet.—Southey, . . ccccxxv

——— The Morning Star.—Wilson, . . ccccxxix

PAGE.

The Dying Soldier's Prayer on the Field of Waterloo. Extracted from "The Field of Waterloo," an unpublished Poem, by JAMES HOGG, - - cccexxi
Sonnet I. To a Lady, - - - - - - cccexxiii
——— II. Written after parting with a Friend going Abroad—Oct. 21, 1814, cccexxiv
——— III. On an important Change that was taking place in the Author's Views and Occupations, - - - - - - - ib.

The London General Bill of Mortality, - - - cccexxvi
Lists of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, - - - - - cccexxxvii
List of Promotions, - - - - - - - - ccclxix
New Publications for 1814, - - - - - - - *i
Index, - - - - - - - - *xxi